

No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

STARVATION DANGER IN SERBIA

Balkan State Has Lost One Million of Its Population Since War Opened, and Balance Suffer for Food

Rome, Mar. 23.—Serbia has lost nearly 1,000,000 of her 5,000,000 population through death by the sword, by starvation, or in the recent typhoid epidemic, the Prince Regent Alexander informed the United Press today.

The remaining 4,000,000 face starvation. It is to save them from the greatest calamity of history that Prince Alexander, Prime Minister Paichitch and the foreign minister have begun a tour of allied capitals.

They hope to secure military action in the Balkans that will assure the restoration of their native country.

"Terrible as have been the losses in our army, they have been vastly less than our civil losses," said the prince regent. "During the first two Austrian invasions of 1914 practically the entire civilian population in the devastated districts was either massacred or carried off into captivity in Austria. Then came the typhus epidemic, carrying off more than 100,000. Hardly had this been overcome when the Germans invaded last October. Hundreds of thousands more either fell before the invaders or fled."

Prince Alexander realized, he said, that only by keeping intact Serbia's fighting forces could he hope to redeem his country from its enemies.

For this reason, everything else was abandoned during the disastrous retreat into Albania.

The aged King Peter, suffering intensely from the hardships of the retreat through the mountains, left his armed forces in command of the son, Prince Alexander refused to leave the Albanian coast until the last Serbian soldier had been transported to Corfu, or elsewhere.

"With the Serbian army which retreated before the combined German, Austrian and Bulgarian forces, vastly superior in number and equipment to their own, there retreated thousands upon thousands of women, children and old men," said Prince Alexander. "Remembering the atrocities committed by the Austro-Hungarians during the invasions of August, September and November, these women and children and old men fled under the most terrible conditions imaginable."

"Information reaching us from Serbia, Montenegro and Albania gives the most sombre picture of the general situation. Enemy armies, we have learned, have taken from the Serbian population every means of existence. There are whole districts where the entire population is dying of hunger and disease."

"Those Serbian refugees who fled across the Albanian Alps suffered untold tortures during the wanderings. The greater part would surely have died but for the help extended by your noble Americans. Thanks to this energetic assistance, thousands of children, with their parents, were saved. It is truly a pleasure to say this publicly. In the terrible disaster which has befallen the Serbian people, and amidst the general horrors of war everywhere, it is no small consolation to see the noble American people undertaking a work of humanity with self-abnegation, admirable as well as incontestable."

SPEND HONEYMOON ON LONG, LONG HIKE

Baker, Mar. 23.—Equipped with a roll of blankets and a marriage cer-

FATE OF AVIATOR GORRELL OF U. S. ARMY UNKNOWN

Columbus, N. M., Mar. 23.—Lieut. Gorrell, army aviator, is still lost somewhere in the desolate country around Casas Grandes, it was officially stated today. Code wireless messages received from the American expedition said no trace of the missing flyer could be found.

The fate of Aviator Gorrell was not mentioned in dispatches from the front. He carried meager rations and only one canteen of water.

Field wireless operations were resumed after static difficulty during the night.

Supply trains are reported making but slow progress, owing to the deep desert sand.

Army officials here discredit stories of General Luis Herrera going over to Villa. He is believed heading the Carranzista forces attempting to encircle the bandit chief.

SCHOONER ASHORE OFF BAY CITY COAST

Bay City, Oregon, Mar. 23.—Abandoned by her crew, the three-masted schooner Oakland, of San Francisco, is aground north of here today and heavy seas are breaking over her. Most of her cargo of railroad ties has been washed away. The Oakland had been driven northward 200 miles out of her course by a severe southwester. She sailed Sunday from Coos Bay for San Francisco. Tuesday she had been driven far north and was in distress. The steamer Saginaw, bound for Seattle from Reondo, went to her assistance and removed her crew of seven men.

Late yesterday the coastguard cutter Snohomish reported the Oakland a derelict. She was sighted by the steamer Beaver yesterday morning and the Beaver reported her position to the tug Oneonta. The Oneonta was attempting to salvage her.

MAY SEND MILITIA TO MEXICAN BORDER

Washington, Mar. 23.—For the first time since Villa started his border raiding the government today seriously considered the possibility of militia forces being a necessity on the international boundary. Every available regular may be needed to cope with the Villista field forces when they are reinforced by deserting Carranzistas.

If the entire regular army border force marched into Mexico, it is believed President Wilson would have to call militia or volunteers to guard the line.

Major-General Funston reported as entirely unauthenticated the story of General Luis Herrera and 2,000 men going over to Villa, but officials admitted the situation presented grave possibilities. The report that Colonel Cano, commanding 900 men, was parleying with Villa, increased official concern. Another rumor was that General Gavira, at Juarez, was rebellious, and that Yaquis on the west coast and Villistas near Tampico were active.

Ulficate, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Grey struck out this morning on the second lap of their 850-mile honeymoon walk.

They were married in Walla Walla Wednesday. As the result of a dare, they decided to walk to their ranch 100 miles south of Salt Lake City. Bad roads, floods and disagreeable weather delayed them on the first lap and it took eight days to cover the 125 miles from Walla Walla to Baker.

SLAV ARMY HAMMERING GERMANS

Russian Troops Are Making Vigorous Assaults Upon von Hindenburg's Lines on Battle Front of 200 Miles

London, Mar. 23.—Half a million Russians under General Kuropatkin are assailing Field Marshal von Hindenburg's Germans along a front of 150 miles today.

Petrograd officially announced that the Slav attacks dented the German line in six places. It was reported unofficially that the battle was raging most furiously 40 miles south of Dvinsk.

Whether this smash is the beginning of a great Russian offensive or merely a demonstration to relieve German pressure against Verdun, has not yet been determined by military critics.

The London Post's Petrograd correspondent declared it was the commencement of a "great Russian move." He pointed out that Kuropatkin had tremendous forces at his command.

Other Petrograd messages declared the attack was an attempt to batter in the dangerous German wedge at Dvinsk, removing the threat of a German offensive there when the weather becomes favorable.

Northwest of Verdun the Germans are apparently striving their utmost to capture the dominant height in the Avocourt region. Emerging from the woods, the Bavarians charged across an open plain which was raked by the fire of many French guns. The swoop was partly successful. Bavarians gained a foothold on Harcourt hill.

London, Mar. 23.—Field Marshal von Hindenburg's Germans are being heavily assailed by Russian troops, who have widened the front of attack until terrific fighting is proceeding today along a curving line 200 miles long southeast of Riga.

The Berlin communist said severe Russian attacks were hurled back from the German lines during the night near Jacobstadt, along the Mitau-Jacobstadt railroad, north of Widen, near Lakes Narocot and Wisniew and south of Dvinsk.

General Kuropatkin is bringing up still heavier Russian forces to smash at the German railway positions, but Berlin claims that all charges to date have been repulsed.

The extension of the eastern front fighting has made the battle there rival that at Verdun, where there was a lull last night, according to both French and German statements.

Berlin claimed capture of fortified heights southwest of Hancourt, where 440 French were captured. There were unimportant changes elsewhere.

Paris admitted losing a portion of Hancourt hill.

WANTS REWARD OFFERED FOR BANDIT VILLA'S BODY

Washington, Mar. 23.—A resolution authorizing President Wilson to offer \$50,000 for the delivery of Francisco Villa's body to American military authorities was introduced in the house today by Representative Scott.

Cummins Booster Here

G. B. Howard is in the city today in the interests of the candidacy of Senator Cummins for president of the United States. Mr. Howard is secretary of the Portland Cummins-for-President club, and states that he finds a great deal of sentiment favorable to his favorite in the state at large.

HOUSE HAS PASSED HAY ARMY BILL

Measure Providing for 140,000 Regular Troops Gets Practically Unanimous Vote, Only 2 Opposing Increase

Washington, Mar. 23.—The Hay army bill passed the house by an overwhelming majority this afternoon.

Randall of California voted only "present" when his name was called. Britten and London were the only members casting negative votes.

The bill provides for 140,000 regulars.

The house had previously adopted Gardner's amendment to the bill providing that efficient members of the regular army may be discharged after a year's service on agreeing to remain in the reserves subject to call if needed until their full terms expired. The vote was 204 to 198. Hay opposed the amendment.

Washington, Mar. 23.—Congressman Kahn's amendment to the Hay army bill, providing for 220,000 regulars, was defeated this afternoon in the house by a vote of 213 to 191.

VON TIRPITZ NOW A PHYSICAL WRECK

Paris, Mar. 23.—Admiral von Tirpitz has become a physical and mental wreck by brooding over the death of scores of his closest friends in the German navy, according to reports in general circulation in diplomatic and military circles in Lucerne and Berne.

A high Swiss military authority gave me some information that has reached him recently, just before I left Berne.

"Von Tirpitz," he said, "resembles in sensitiveness the great Japanese military leader who, overwhelmed by the memory of vast losses of Japanese soldiers he sent against Port Arthur, committed suicide upon the death of the late Japanese emperor. Von Tirpitz has died a thousand deaths since the war began. He has bade farewell to hundreds of splendid young submarine officers who went out to perish miserably under the water. The code among German submarines requires that they shoot themselves when the situation of their U boat becomes hopeless. Von Tirpitz has pictured to himself—for such is the nature of his mentality—too many terrible under-water scenes involving his friends. It is known beyond a doubt that von Tirpitz felt himself living in a world of horrors. Even the kaiser himself was unable to calm his self-reproach."

"German military men say the Lusitania incident was the beginning of von Tirpitz' breakdown. The strain became too much. Both the foreign and German newspapers—the latter boastfully—connected the name of von Tirpitz with submarine horrors. The thing became too personal. It simply broke him down."

FUNSTON WANTS MORE AEROPLANES IN MEXICO

Washington, Mar. 23.—General Funston has asked for eight or ten more aeroplanes, it was learned on good authority this afternoon. It may be necessary for the war department to purchase them. A number are at San Diego, but they are mostly hydro-aeroplanes, which can not be used in land operations.

MEXICAN RAILWAY UNDER CONTROL OF GEN. PERSHING

El Paso, Mar. 23.—General Pershing has taken control of the Mexico Northwestern railroad south of his base at Casas Grandes, it was unofficially stated today. He is said to be transporting American infantry over the railway toward Madera, in an effort to get behind Francisco Villa while Colonel Dodd's cavalry pushes the bandit chief and his followers southward. The Americans were reported to have entrained at Casas Grandes with equipment Pershing obtained at Casas Grandes and Pearson.

Cavalry is understood to be protecting the line. It is unknown whether Pershing seized the road or was given permission by the Carranzistas to use it.

ARMY PROGRESSES 12 MILES PER DAY

With the United States Army, somewhere in Northern Mexico, Tuesday, Mar. 21.—(By Government Wireless to Columbus, N. M., Mar. 23; delayed).—We are making progress by easy stages, owing to the big retinue of supplies, field hospitals and ammunition wagons.

Since the army entered Mexico from Columbus, this division headquarters has traveled about 12 miles a day, while the cavalry advance, which crossed at Gibson's ranch, a few miles west, under General Pershing's personal command, did much better. That detachment has already reached its permanent headquarters at Casas Grandes. The division with the accredited newspaper correspondents is expected to reach Casas Grandes Thursday. The correspondents joined their escort from army headquarters for the march into Mexico just before noon March 15.

The march will be resumed today toward Ojo Frederico. We should reach Casas Grandes in two more hikes.

The army aeroplanes made their base at Casas Grandes in two short flights.

CONFERENCE OF ENTENTE ALLIES

Paris, Mar. 23.—A greater entente, bringing not only France, England and Russia but the smaller of the allies into complete accord, will result from the conference to be held here late this week or early next.

Military and political leaders of the allies were assembling here today in advance of the meeting. They plan to organize for concerted action, both in a military and political way, to shorten the war.

Since Aristide Briand became prime minister of France, he has worked ceaselessly toward this end, and is now called the artisan of the greater entente. Briand will preside over the deliberations.

Prince Regent Alexander of Serbia is due to arrive in Paris today. General Cadorna, Italian commander-in-chief, is already in Paris, and will be joined shortly by General Porro, second in command. Great Britain will be represented by General Douglas Haig, Premier Asquith and others. Premier Briand, General Joffre and one or two French cabinet members will represent France. General Glinzky will be Russia's representative, and Premier De Broqueville and General Wilemans will act for Belgium.

General Cadorna visited the French front today. The Serbian prince regent received an enthusiastic reception when he arrived at two o'clock this afternoon.

UPRISING OF MEXICANS FEARED

Northern Part of the Republic Is in Condition of Unrest, and More American Troops Hurry to Border

San Antonio, Mar. 23.—Northern Mexico today is like a powder magazine with fire burning on all sides. The entire border fear of Mexican uprisings has been renewed. Though Major General Funston has not received official word of General Luis Herrera's reported desertion to the Villistas, he is facing the situation frankly and has ordered additional troops to the most dangerous border points.

The third battalion of the Fifth Infantry is en route to Columbus, and a portion of the Twenty-fourth not required to protect General John J. Pershing's lines of communication will also be distributed along the border.

The Fourth artillery has been transferred from Mercedes to Brownsville, opposite Matamoros, which is a veritable hot-bed of Villistalism.

The total American strength at Brownsville is 5,000.

Army headquarters stated precautions were being taken to protect Pershing's communications from revolting Carranzistas.

General Funston had no information about the reported engagement between Villistas and the Seventh cavalry detachment 80 miles south of Casas Grandes. The rumor that two Americans and 82 Mexicans had been killed was unconfirmed. Funston stated that the news might possibly have reached the border before it came to him.

General Bell's reported establishment of a censorship at El Paso was "not improbable," staff officers said. There has been no official announcement of censorship orders being issued there.

MEXICANS ARRESTED FOR PLOTTING EL PASO FIRE

El Paso, Mar. 23.—Police Captain Hall today claimed to have information of a plot concocted by 200 Mexicans to burn El Paso and loot the city. Eleven suspects were arrested, including Melchor Herrera, brother of General Luis Herrera, Carranzista leader.

SENATE BLOCKS VOLUNTEER CALL

Washington, Mar. 23.—During a turbulent debate on Mexico in the senate today, it was asserted that a South Dakota citizen had offered to send 100 troops to the border at his own expense.

Senator Sherman tried to call up his resolution empowering the president to ask for 50,000 volunteers, but he was unable to do so.

Senator Works, of Los Angeles, declared that advocates of preparedness were spreading a "gospel of fear and hate" and that President Wilson had "fallen under its spell."

When Sherman tried repeatedly to get a hearing on his volunteer measure, Senator Stone interposed that he believed open discussion of the situation "inadvisable." Sherman later issued a statement declaring "it has become alarmingly apparent that our forces are pitifully weak and unable to meet even a moderate emergency, much less a crisis, in Mexico."